

Dear Commerce Committee,

I urge you NOT to pass HB5263. I co-founded Annie's Inc. which has Bernie, the Rabbit of Approval, as the company mascot and who has been core to the company's marketing since it was founded in 1989. Bernie was my house rabbit who I litterbox trained and loved so much that it is his face that adorns the front of Annie's Shells & Cheddar macaroni and cheese boxes. I have had rabbits all of my adult life. My current rabbit rescue, Kirby, is lounging in a spot of sun in my living room as I write this. Rabbits are pets not food.

Thank you for your attention.

Annie Withey
130 Station Road
Hampton, CT 06247
rfmiller01@snet.net